

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- part B21*
1. The process for preparing 4-amino-5-hexenoic acid, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof which comprises the steps:
 - (a) thermally rearranging erythritol to 4-formyl-3-hydroxy-1-butene,
 - (b) thermally rearranging 4-formyl-3-hydroxy-1-butene to ethyl 6-formyloxy-4-hexenoate, followed by the conversion of the formate to its corresponding alcohol,
 - (c) converting the so-produced ethyl 6-hydroxy-4-hexenoate to ethyl 6-trichloroacetimidoxo-4-hexenoate by reaction with trichloroacetonitrile, followed by its thermal rearrangement to its imidate ethyl-4-trichloroacetoamido-5-hexenoate which, by hydrolysis is converted to the desired 4-amino-5-hexenoic acid, and optionally converting said acid to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
 2. Ethyl 6-formyloxy-4-hexenoate.
 3. Ethyl 6-trichloroacetimidoxo-4-hexenoate
 4. 4-Ethyl-4-trichloroacetoamido-5-hexenoate.